

Application No. 09/477,730  
Reply to Office Action of December 24, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-13: Canceled.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A vector for introducing a gene into a plant, which comprises:

a desired gene,

a cytokinin plant hormone signal transduction gene which comprises the CKII gene from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and a cytokinin plant hormone synthesis gene together as selectable marker genes, and

a removable DNA element,

wherein the selectable marker genes are positioned such that they behave integrally with the removable DNA element, and

wherein the desired gene is positioned such that it does not behave integrally with the removable DNA element.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The vector according to claim 14, wherein the selectable marker genes are present within the removable DNA element.

Claim 16: Canceled.

Claim 17: Canceled.

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Claim 18: Canceled.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The vector according to claim 14 ~~18~~, wherein the cytokinin synthesis gene is the isopentenyl transferase (*ipt*) gene which is present on the T-DNA of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The vector according to claim 14, wherein the removable DNA element is derived from a site-specific recombination system.

Claims 21-39: Canceled.